

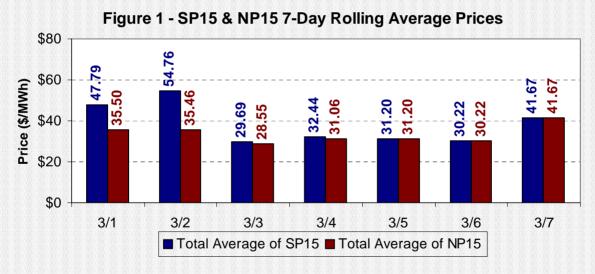
## **Electricity Oversight Board**

Daily Report for Sunday, March 7, 2004

The average zonal price increased by 38 percent to \$41.67/MWh up from \$30.22/MWh on Saturday. Despite the lower weekend loads, the lower zonal prices could be the result of:

- Warm weather conditions. Temperatures increased across California between 8 and 14 degrees and ranged between low-70s in Northern California and low-80s in Southern California.
- Higher natural gas price. The average natural gas price increased by 3 percent to \$5.24/MMBtu on Friday.
- Higher generation outage level that ranged at between 11,100 MW and 11,500 MW.
- For hours 6 p.m. and 7 p.m., the CAISO ancillary services reserve dropped below the requirement of 7 percent that corresponded with higher zonal prices.
- Between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m., the CAISO forecasted load was short of actual load between 2 and 3 percent that could have resulted in higher zonal prices.

The price spike at 10 p.m. could have occurred as a result of the winter peak load (evening hours) that concurs with the periods which generators with long-tem contracts typically ramp down. To balance the loads with resources in the real-time sometimes requires acceptance of all bids that could imply higher priced bids as well.







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